

We claim:

1 1. A method for handling an unsuccessful synchronous call attempt from a calling party to a
2 called party, said method comprising:

3 monitoring a synchronous call attempt from said calling party to said called party;

4 determining at least one communication address related to said called party;

5 dropping said synchronous call attempt to said called party;

6 allowing said calling party to compose a message; and

7 sending said message to said determined communication address.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining that said synchronous call attempt
2 to said called party is unsuccessful.

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein said determining that said synchronous call attempt to
2 said called party is unsuccessful comprises detecting an indication from the calling party that
3 said synchronous call attempt to said called party is unsuccessful.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said indication comprises said calling party pressing a
2 predetermined key or keys on a communication device.

1 5. The method of claim 3, wherein said indication comprises said calling party using a vocal
2 command.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said dropping occurs prior to said determining said at
2 least one communication address.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein said dropping comprises disconnecting.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one communication address comprises at
2 least one of a telephone number, pager number, e-mail address, voice messaging address,
3 mobile phone number, and Internet instant messaging address.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein said determining at least one communication address
2 comprises using said called party's telephone number in a query to at least one database for
3 communication addresses for said called party.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein said determining at least one communication address
2 comprises using information about said called party in a query to at least one database to
3 obtain other information about said called party.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said other information about said called party is used in
2 a query to at least one database to obtain further information about said called party.

1 12. The method of claim 10, wherein said information about said called party comprises
2 name and communication addresses.

1 13. The method of claim 1, wherein said allowing said calling party to compose a message
2 comprises:

3 where said at least one communication address related to the called party comprises a
4 plurality of communication addresses, presenting said calling party with a list of
5 messaging options based on said plurality of communication addresses;

6 allowing the calling party to select a messaging option for use; and

7 commencing a message compose session related to said selected messaging option
8 and pre-filling a communication address for said message with a communication
9 address related to said messaging option.

1 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising determining said called party's
2 communication addresses that are available for use.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein said determining the called party's addresses that are
2 available for use comprises comparing the determined called party's addresses with the
3 message compose capability of a communications device of said calling party.

1 16. A computer readable medium containing computer executable code which adapts a
2 processor for a communication system to:

3 monitor a synchronous call attempt from said calling party to said called party;

4 determine at least one communication address related to said called party;

5 drop said synchronous call attempt to said called party;

6 allow said calling party to compose a message; and

7 send said message to said determined communication address.

1 17. The computer readable medium of claim 16, further adapting a processor for a
2 communication system to determine that said synchronous call attempt to said called party is
3 unsuccessful.

1 18. The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein said determining that said
2 synchronous call attempt to said called party is unsuccessful comprises detecting an
3 indication from the calling party that said synchronous call attempt to said called party is
4 unsuccessful.

1 19. The computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein said indication comprises said
2 calling party pressing a predetermined key or keys on a communication device.

1 20. The computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein said indication comprises said
2 calling party using a vocal command.

1 21. The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein said at least one communication
2 address comprises at least one of a telephone number, pager number, e-mail address, voice
3 messaging address, mobile phone number, and Internet instant messaging address.

1 22. The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein said determining at least one
2 communication address comprises using information about said called party in a query to at
3 least one database to obtain other information about said called party.

1 23. The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein said other information about said
2 called party is used in a query to at least one database to obtain further information about said
3 called party.

1 24. The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein said allowing said calling party to
2 compose a message comprises:

3 where said at least one communication address related to the called party comprises a
4 plurality of communication addresses, presenting said calling party with a list of
5 messaging options based on said plurality of communication addresses;

6 allowing the calling party to select a messaging option for use; and

7 commencing a message compose session related to said selected messaging option
8 and pre-filling a communication address for said message with a communication
9 address related to said messaging option.

1 25. The computer readable medium of claim 24, further comprising determining said called
2 party's communication addresses that are available for use.

3 26. The computer readable medium of claim 25, wherein said determining the called party's
4 addresses that are available for use comprises comparing the determined called party's
5 addresses with the message compose capability of a communications device of said calling
6 party.

1 27. A method for handling a synchronous call attempt from a calling party to a called party,
2 said method comprising:

3 monitoring a synchronous call attempt from said calling party to said called party;

4 detecting an indication from said calling party that said calling party wishes to send a
5 message;

6 determining at least one communication address related to said called party;

7 allowing said calling party to compose a message; and

8 sending said message to said determined communication address.

1 28. The method of claim 27, wherein said detecting comprises detecting said calling party
2 pressing a predetermined key or keys on a communication device.

- 1 29. The method of claim 27, wherein said detecting comprises detecting said calling party
- 2 using a vocal command.
- 1 30. A system for handling an unsuccessful synchronous call attempt from a calling party to a
- 2 called party, said system comprising:
 - 3 monitoring means for monitoring a synchronous call attempt from said calling party
 - 4 directed to said called party;
 - 5 detection means for determining that said synchronous call attempt from said calling
 - 6 party to said called party is unsuccessful;
 - 7 addressing means for determining at least one address for said called party;
 - 8 dropping means for dropping said synchronous call attempt to said called party;
 - 9 message means for allowing said calling party to compose a message for said called
 - 10 party; and
 - 11 sending means for sending said message to said address determined by said
 - 12 addressing means.
- 1 31. The system of claim 30, wherein said addressing means comprises:
 - 2 at least one database containing said called party's address information;
 - 3 database query means for querying said database for said called party's address
 - 4 information; and
 - 5 data communication means for providing said called party's address information to
 - 6 said message means.